



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/626,006	07/24/2003	Mark B. Lyles	068351.0141	9914
31625	7590	03/17/2005	EXAMINER	
BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.			WALLS, DIONNE A	
PATENT DEPARTMENT			ART UNIT	
98 SAN JACINTO BLVD., SUITE 1500			PAPER NUMBER	
AUSTIN, TX 78701-4039			1731	

DATE MAILED: 03/17/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/626,006

Applicant(s)

LYLES, MARK B.

Examiner

Dionne A. Walls

Art Unit

1731

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 February 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 24 July 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-2, 8-11, and 17-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Akiko et al (US. Pat. No. 4,735,218).

Akiko discloses, in its "Background of the Invention" section, that tobacco filters having nucleic acid filled into the cellulose filtering material is known for filtering carcinogens, such as benzopyrene (see col. 1, lines 61-64). Therefore, this reference anticipates the claims.

Regarding claims 9 and 18, it follows that there will be more than one carcinogen-containing material since tobacco smoke inherently contains at least two substances that could be considered carcinogens.

3. Claims 1-2, 8-12 and 17-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by JP 07-241570 (Mechanical Translation).

JP 07-241570 discloses a filter for removing a mutagenic substance, said filter having deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) fixed thereon, wherein the mutagenic substance is adsorbed by the filter. This filter is capable of being used as a filter for tobacco smoke since it can be constructed of cellulose acetate – a typical cigarette filter material (see abstract). Therefore, this reference anticipates the claims.

Art Unit: 1731

4. Claims 1, 4-5, 8-9, 10, 13, and 17-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by FR 2,800,299 (English abstract).

FR 2,800,299 discloses a filter which comprises a compartment that contains nucleic acid in order to remove carcinogens and mitogens from tobacco smoke (see abstract). Since there is not mention that said compartment comprises anything other than nucleic acid, it is presumed that such compartment has 100% nucleic by weight – which meets the limitation of claim 5. Therefore, this reference anticipates the claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 3 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Akiko et al (US. Pat. No. 4,735,218) or JP 07-241570 or FR 2,800,299.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have distributed the nucleic acid substantially uniformly on the filtering surface, of any of the filters disclosed in the above references, in order to better appreciate the benefits of the substance in filtering harmful material from fluids.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

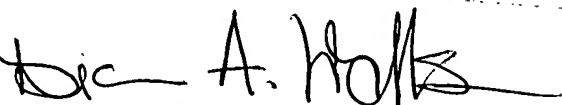
Art Unit: 1731

- WO 01/19210

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dionne A. Walls whose telephone number is (571) 272-1195. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, 7AM - 4:30PM (Every other Friday off).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Steven P. Griffin can be reached on (571) 272-1189. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Dionne A. Walls
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1731

March 5, 2005